

Montana Newsletter

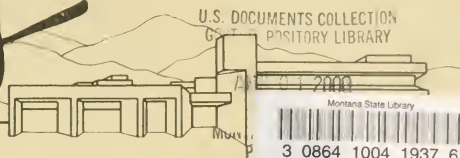
Montana State Library

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THEORY OF THE EARTH

BY J. H. VAN DIJK

News



Vol. 13 No. 3

May 1984

MONCAT PARTICIPATION GROWS

Four additional MONCAT grants were awarded by the State Library Commission April 28th. The proposals represent four public libraries, two hospital libraries, one film/media library, and five school libraries -- rich and varied additions to the Montana union catalog data base.

The increased WLN participation, funded by the two MONCAT grant processes February and April 1984, is expected to add approximately 240,000 holdings to the data base during the next 12 months.

The most recent grant awards are:

o **Bozeman Public Library:** associate membership and retrospective conversion project through existing WLN principal member, Montana State University Library - \$13,554.

o **Butte-Silver Bow Public Library:** recon-only membership in cooperation with existing principal member, Montana Tech Library - \$4,564.

o **Helena area libraries:** cooperative participation for four libraries - Lewis and Clark Library, project coordinator; Office of Public Instruction Media Library; Shodair Hospital Medical Library; and Fort Harrison

MONTANAN WORKS FOR LIBRARIES ON NATIONAL LEVEL

Margaret Warden was honored this spring as one of the ten most influential women of Great Falls. Of all her contributions, the former state senator values most highly her work with libraries - as a library trustee, a member of the American Library Association, a State Library Commission member, and since 1980 a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

Warden is the only commissioner for the region that encompasses Montana, North and South Dakota,

Wyoming, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Appropriate to her Montana library experience, she is program commissioner for the Rural America Program and serves on the committee to plan for a "National Advisory Board on Rural Information Needs." Warden also serves as NCLIS liaison with the White House Conference on Library and Information Services and as Legislation liaison.

In January she participated in the U.S. Department of Education's seminar on public libraries held in Boston. The purpose of the seminar, one of several regional meetings, was to respond to the Department of Education's report, *A Nation at Risk*, regarding the contribution of libraries to education.

In an April 12, 1984, *Great Falls Tribune* interview, Warden states that "without the backing of a public library you don't have the fundamental requisites of a good education." She believes educators should be more supportive of good public libraries and there needs to be better cooperation among all libraries.

Veterans Administration Medical Library - \$38,545.

o **Kalispell area libraries** - Kalshares Phase II: expansion of the Kalshares I proposal, coordinated by the Flathead Co. Library, allowing the addition of recon-only members - Lincoln Co. High School Library, Troy High School Library, Libby Jr. High School Library, Flathead High School Library (District No. 5), and Lincoln Co. Free Library. Kalshares I participants are: Flathead Co. Library, Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell Regional Hospital Library, and Libby Senior High School Library.

1,400 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of 30¢ per copy, for a total cost of \$420.00, which includes \$420.00 for printing and \$0.00 for distribution.

A LOOK AT ALASKA SCHOOL LIBRARY NETWORKING

Ruth Jean Shaw of Anchorage, Alaska, traveled 1,300 miles the week of March 26th visiting seven Montana communities. Her mission was to share her experiences with school libraries' participation in an automated resource sharing network.

The Anchorage School District, of which Shaw is Library Resources Manager, is the first school library system to join the Washington Library Network. All 84 District libraries are adding their holdings to the data base. They use a microfilm union catalog instead of individual card catalogs and are able to identify and gain access to holdings of the entire District instead of only building level materials.

Shaw's messages to the 160 librarians and school administrators who attended

her presentations were:

- o School libraries play an important role in any resource sharing network by adding unique materials. The Anchorage School District, for example, discovered one of its unique contributions to be computer literacy.

- o District-wide resource sharing ultimately reduces the time and cost of providing library services by centralizing duplicated tasks such as cataloging, and by eliminating others such as card filing.

- o Interlibrary loan traffic among District libraries and to libraries in the WLN region has increased now that library resources are identified on the WLN data base. Shaw views this not as a burden but as the "trade-off" for no longer having to file cards and maintain separate card catalogs at the

building level.

- o By automating library functions, librarians can redirect their valuable time and energy to evaluating and selecting materials and to improving the quality of education by more effectively obtaining library materials for students, teachers and school administrators.

A copy of Shaw's presentation can be obtained by writing **MSL News**. It will be published in the summer issue of **School Library Media Quarterly**.

Also, two half-inch VHS videocassettes can be borrowed from the State Library on Alaska's resource sharing experience.

- o "Education in the 80's - the Need to Know: School Libraries and the Information Explosion."

- o "Libraries Are Free," a look at Alaska's statewide network.

PERIODICALS "DROPPINGS" PROGRAM

The State Library has established a "droppings" program to track the disposition of periodicals collections in Montana libraries.

If your library is considering dropping any current periodical subscription or discarding older holdings, please notify Darlene Staffeldt, Montana State Library, 444-3004. Library staff will check the Union List of Montana Serials and other appropriate tools to determine if Montana will be losing a unique or last-title resource. If necessary, staff will negotiate with another library, perhaps a more appropriate collection, to either acquire a current subscription of the title or to house the discontinued holdings.

LIBRARIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Recent state and local government studies indicate that many public facilities in Montana are critically in need of repair and replacement. Yet the financing needed for facilities improvement is difficult to obtain.

These public facilities, also termed "infrastructure," include water and sewer systems, roads, bridges, and buildings such as libraries, schools, and jails.

What can librarians do?

- o Librarians are invited to join the Governor's Task Force on Infrastructure, a working group of volunteers which is looking for solutions to public facility financing problems.

- o Librarians can purchase publications which focus on public facility

maintenance and financing issues. These would be of interest to local government officials as well as private sector individuals involved in the finance and construction professions.

- o And librarians can work with local and state government officials to explore new financing ideas.

Further information on the infrastructure issue and the Governor's Task Force is available from Robb McCracken or Nancy Leifer, Community Development Div., Dept. of Commerce, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59620, 444-3757.

A bibliography on infrastructure is available from the Reference and Information Services Dept. of the State Library.

AROUND THE STATE

Ten Montanans participated in the American Library Association's tenth annual Legislative Day in Washington DC: Commission members Henry McClerman, Sheila Cates, Martha Davis, Mary Hudspeth, and Noreen Alldredge; State Librarian Sara Parker; Barbara Rudio representing the Montana Library Association; Cheryl Hutchinson representing the Montana Library Services Advisory Council; Ruth Patrick representing ALA's Continuing Education Committee. Personal contacts were made with Senators Baucus and Melcher and Rep. Williams. Because Rep. Marlenee was in Great Falls, the group met with his assistant Virginia Morton. Margaret Warden spoke with Sen. Orrin Hatch's staff.

L. Phelps Shepard is the new Butte-Silver Bow Public Library Director. He is the former head of extension services of the Aurora (IL) Public Library.

Acquisitions assistant Donna O'Leary retires in May after nearly 17 years with the State Library.

The Montana State University Renne Library is honoring Alice Ridenour upon her retirement at a July 1st dinner. Since joining the Library in 1950, she has served as Head of the Catalog and Technical Services Departments and as Associate Director.

Recently honored by the Renne Library was Minnie Paugh who retired after serving on the staff since 1961, primarily as Special Collections Librarian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The State Library has amended its circulation policy. A six-week trial run showed that the State Library attracts many walk-in users from around the state as well as residents of Helena. These walk-in users are now able to check materials out directly from the Library. The interlibrary loan paperwork will be mailed to the local library and the borrower is asked to return the item to that library.

Summer continuing education opportunities are plentiful. The backside of the calendar insert of this issue of the MSL News lists locations of courses and addresses to obtain further information.

Mineral County librarian Bernadette Evans reports that the remodeling project for the Superior library is completed, the first Title II LSCA construction grant project to be finalized (Jan. 1984 MSL NEWS).

Ruth Freburg retires in July after 16 years as librarian for the Petroleum County Community Library in Winnett. She was instrumental in establishing Montana's first joint school-community library, housed in the school building since 1974. Carlene Lodermeir will be the new librarian.

The library community was saddened to learn of the death of Mary Antunes. She was Havre Public Librarian for over 25 years and was recently honored as Librarian Emeritus.

The new head of cataloging at the Montana State University is John K. McAskill, previously from Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas.

The Library of Congress Cataloging Service Bulletin is cheaper by the dozen. The Montana State University Renne Library is willing to coordinate a statewide subscription with multiple copies. Contact Jim Cole for details, 994-5301.

LIBRARY FUNDRAISING SUCCESS STORIES

Five months into a two-year fundraising drive, Havre-Hill County residents have raised over \$32,000 of the \$285,000 needed to remodel the old Havre clinic. Havre physicians donated the 12,800 square foot clinic to be the library. Once completed, the Havre Public and Hill County Libraries will merge into one library. (Consolidation was accomplished last year.)

Rep. Ray Peck and Mitzi Anderson are co-chairs of the fundraising drive. Hill County Library Director Bonnie Williamson indicates that the success of the drive is due to the many ingenious promotional ideas of the fundraisers.

Plains area residents have raised nearly \$89,000, enough to purchase the L&O Motors building for the public library facility. This included the Olive Kruger bequest of \$26,000 and a gift of nearly \$24,000 from Johnson family members (William and Kathryn, Robert and Dorothy). The remainder was raised by residents of the Plains-Paradise area.

Plains received a Title II LSCA grant of \$20,077 for remodeling expenses. The 2,500 square foot facility will be over four times the size of the present library.

Lawrence McCarthy is chair of the fundraising drive. Blanche Richardson is librarian.

TRUSTEE WORKSHOPS VIDEOTAPE AVAILABLE

Workshops for public library trustees were held this spring in six Montana communities. They were sponsored by the State Library and the Montana Library Association Continuing Education Committee.

Program topics were public awareness, advocacy, and policy making, modeled after the ALTA WILL (Workshops in Library Leadership) workshops developed by ALA's American Library Trustee Association.

The western Montana presenter was Minnesota State Librarian Bill Asp who was involved in developing ALTA WILL. Jeanne Davies, trustee of the Arapahoe Regional Library in Littleton, Colorado, and former American Library Association president, gave the presentations in eastern Montana.

A three-hour videotape of the Bozeman workshop was prepared at the Montana State University Television Center. It is available in both 3/4" and 1/2" VHS formats from the Reference and Information Services Department of the State Library.

WLN ANNOUNCES RECON BY MICROCOMPUTER

The Washington Library Network (WLN) recently announced the capability of using microcomputer data for retrospective conversion input. Recon is the process of converting library collections into full MARC (machine readable) format in computer data bases.

WLN's "recon-by-micro" service is available to any WLN principal, associate, or recon-only member library as an alternative to online entry through WLN terminals. Floppy diskettes from either Apple or IBM-PC microcomputers are accepted by WLN.

This service has made it possible for smaller libraries and libraries without WLN computer terminals to afford retrospective conversion projects. Most of Montana's newest participants, especially the recon-only and associate members, are using microcomputers to add retrospective holdings. (See related story, page one, this issue and March 1984 issue.)

For more information contact WLN, Washington State Library, AJ-11, Olympia WA 98504.



REGIONAL JOBLINES

Both the Mountain Plains Library Association and the Pacific Northwest Library Association maintain free joblines to aid both job-seekers and libraries with openings. Recorded telephone announcements of current vacancies are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for positions at professional, technical and paraprofessional levels.

o **MPLA Jobline** covers Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

Write: Jobline, MPLA, c/o I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota, Vermillion SD 57069.

Recorded job messages: 605-624-2511.

o **PNLA Jobline** covers Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

Write: PNLA Jobline, c/o School of Librarianship FM-30, University of Washington, Seattle WA 98195.

Recorded job messages: 206-543-2890.

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1515 East Sixth Avenue
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406/444-3115

Montana State Library Commission

Dr. Henry McClernan, Chair
Butte
Mary Hudspeth, Vice Chair
Glendive

C E Abramson Missoula	Sheila Cales Helena
Noreen Alldredge Bozeman	Martha B Davis Dillon

Joan M Evans
Billings

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Sara Parker, State Librarian
Beth Givens, Editor

Montana State Library

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Helena, Montana 59620

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